

PROGRAM IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Today's students will live and work within an increasingly multicultural world. Intercultural Studies offers a challenging program that examines issues that characterize this world including: intercultural contact, systems of power and privilege, and inter-group dynamics. The program is designed to help students understand the shifting boundaries of culture, nation, race, ethnicity, and institutional structures that shape contemporary social life. Because this program encourages analysis and reflection upon the dynamics of intercultural interaction in many contexts, students will find that Intercultural Studies complements work within their major area of study and is relevant to their professional interests.

The goal of the program in Intercultural Studies is to foster an academic community in which challenging and important questions can be addressed. The program allows students to discuss their ideas and concerns with fellow students from different cultural backgrounds and academic disciplines who share an interest in learning about issues of race, cultural difference, and ethnic identity. The minor consists of an interdisciplinary series of courses that challenge a monocultural perspective from a position of privilege.

Minor in Intercultural Studies—ICS (15 hours)

All ICS courses focus on the interaction and dynamics between individuals and/or societies from different identity groups and require students to examine, reassess, and/or better understand their identity in terms of culture and/or power and privilege. Only two courses in any academic discipline may be taken in each category, with the exception of ICS courses.

The following:

ICS 201	Introduction to Intercultural Studies	3 hours
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One of the following:

Theory of Culture

A student in a Theory of Culture course will acquire tools for understanding the role of culture in human life and seeing the cultural dimensions of her world, and she will learn how to carry out informed comparative analysis. While the concept of culture will be present in all ICS courses, those which can be used to satisfy this requirement will be characterized by a deeper theoretical focus on the process of cultural formation both individually and collectively.

ANTH 253	Culture and Language	3 hours
ANTH 320	Anthropology of Race and Racism	3 hours
ANTH 346	Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective	3 hours
ANTH 390	Topics in Cultural Anthropology (approved topics)	3 hours
ANTH 435	Politics of Multiculturalism	3 hours
COMM 350	Intercultural Communications	3 hours
ENLT 354*	Immigrant Women's Writing	3 hours
ENLT 362*	Contemporary Global Literature	3 hours
POSC 207	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3 hours
PSYC 438*	Stereotyping and Prejudice	3 hours
RLST 307	Leviticus and Numbers	3 hours

One of the following:

Theory of Power and Privilege

Classes in this category will analyze the roots of particular forms of privilege and subordination, examine how they have evolved and changed over time, investigate how they operate, and give each student an opportunity to locate and examine her own position in systems of power and privilege. While these concepts will be present in most if not all ICS courses, those which can be used to satisfy this requirement will be characterized by a deeper theoretical focus on systems of power and privilege.

COMM 210	Mass Media and Society (approved sections)	3 hours
ENLT 366*	Postcolonial Women's Writing	3 hours
GWS 333	Transnational Feminisms	3 hours
POSC 319	The Global Politics of International Development	3 hours
POSC 360	Politics of Race	3 hours
PSYC 438*	Stereotyping and Prejudice	3 hours
SOC 255	Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in the U.S.	3 hours
SOC 320	Social Inequalities in Education	3 hours
SOC 345*	Sociology of Poverty	3 hours
SOC 360*	Social Stratification: Class, Gender, and Race	3 hours

Two or more from the above categories or two of the following elective courses(6 hours):

ANTH 141	People and Nature	3 hours
ART 242	Art History Survey II	3 hours
ART 352	Contemporary Art	3 hours
BIO 270	Environments of Ecuador	3 hours
BUAD 329*	Race and Gender Issues in Management	3 hours
BUAD 422*	International Management	3 hours
EDUC 201	Foundations for Teaching in a Multicultural Society	3 hours
ENLT 290/390	Special Topics Seminar in Literature (approved topics)	3 hours
ENLT 251	African-American Literature	3 hours
ENLT 253	Native American Literature	3 hours
ENLT 367	Caribbean Women's Writing	3 hours
ENWR 222	Tourist or Traveler: Travel Writing in the New Millennium	3 hours
GWS 275	Global Women's Leadership (summer course)	3 hours
HIST 324	History of Women in America	3 hours
HIST 341	African-American History	3 hours
HIST 385	Latin American History and Culture	3 hours
HUST 203	Asian Influence on Western Literature	3 hours
ICS 290/390/490	Special Topics	1–3 hours
ICS 397/497	Independent Study	1–3 hours
NURS 414*	Community Health Nursing	5 hours
PHIL 245	Philosophy of World Cultures	3 hours
PHIL 254	Social Justice	3 hours
POSC 304	Latin American Politics	3 hours
PSYC 237	Cultural Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 481*	Clinical Psychology	3 hours
RLST 225	Reading the Hebrew Bible in Jewish and Christian Terms	3 hours
RLST 355	African-American Theologies	3 hours
RLST 380	World Religions and Christianity	3 hours
RLST 381	Islam: Beliefs, Practices, and Current Events	3 hours
SW 342	Intercultural Leadership Development	3 hours

*Courses may be taken only by students majoring in the discipline or by students who can demonstrate adequate knowledge to the course instructor.

Selected courses taken through study abroad programs may also apply to the minor.

INTERCULTURAL STUDIES COURSES (ICS)

201 Introduction to Intercultural Studies (3)

An introduction to Intercultural Studies through an examination of 1) the relationship between culture and identity, 2) patterns of behavior and attitudes engendered by intercultural contact, 3) systems of power and privilege, and 4) expressions of identity. The course emphasizes the necessity of intercultural skills in the pluralistic society of the United States in the 21st century. It also fosters an understanding of different perspectives through the study of texts which voice the viewpoints and histories of various identity groups within the United States.

250 Intercultural Engagement Through Study Abroad (1)

Intercultural Engagement is an on-line course offered to students enrolled in a study abroad program; it is designed to help develop intercultural competence by engaging students in critical reflection and analysis of their experience of living abroad. Graded H/S/U. Corequisite: enrollment in a study abroad program.

310 Diversity Dialogues (1)

Diversity Dialogues uses the framework of a “study circle” to conduct a series of structured conversations that deal with questions of race and identity and ways that participants might bring change to their local setting. The study circles that form the basis of this course will include both students and members of the campus and local communities, insuring a wide range of experiences and insights on the subject of race. Respect for each other’s ideas and allowing everyone a fair hearing are hallmarks of the study circle approach; the process of building relationships between members of the group is as important as the issues discussed. The study circle is small-group democracy in action; all viewpoints are taken seriously, and each member has an equal opportunity to participate. Graded S/U. (Also listed as JUST 310).

330 The Catalyst Trip (0-1)

The Catalyst Trip is an immersive learning trip offered every other year during the fall break. It combines a series of experiences with critical reflection in an intense five-day trip, traditionally to southern Ohio and the city of Cincinnati. When possible, the Catalyst trip includes community women as participants in addition to Saint Mary’s students. The Catalyst Trip includes a pre-departure workshop plus 5 days during Fall Break (inclusive of two half-days of travel between South Bend and the immersion destination).

290, 390, 490 Special Topics (1-3)

Topics of special interest in Intercultural Studies not covered in the regular offerings of the program. May be repeated with different topic.

397, 497 Independent Study (1-3)

This course is designed to provide upper-level students the opportunity to examine intercultural issues using a framework and content of their own design. Prerequisite: ICS 201 or permission of advisor.

399 Internship (1-3)

Community-based experience in an intercultural studies related field at an approved site. Jointly supervised by a faculty member and a representative from the sponsoring agency. Must be approved by the Director of the Intercultural Studies Program. Student will submit a reflection paper appropriate to the nature of the internship within two weeks of the end of the internship. Graded S/U.